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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

5

Application Number

10/731,174

Filing Date

December 8, 2003

First Named Inventor

Allen F. Podell

Art Unit

2833

Examiner Name

unknown

Attorney Docket Number

WTE 303

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☐

Amendment/Reply

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

☒

Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐

Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application

☐

Reply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐

Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application

☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation  
Change of Correspondence Address

☐

Terminal Disclaimer

☐

Request for Refund

☐

CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Landscape Table on CD

☐

After Allowance Communication to TC

☐

Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences

☐

Appeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☒

Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):

Form PTO 1449 and return-receipt  
postcard.

Remarks

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Kolisch Hartwell, P.C.

Signature

Printed name

Edward B. Anderson

Date

December 6, 2004

Reg. No.

30,154

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature

Typed or printed name

Tamara Daw

Date

December 6, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Date: December 6, 2004

ALLEN F. PODELL

Serial No. : 10/731,174

Group Art Unit 2833

Filed : December 8, 2003

For : BI-LEVEL COUPLER

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98**

Applicant is submitting this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the patents, publications, applications, and/or other references listed on the enclosed, completed PTO-1449 form(s). The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the listed references are prior art for this application. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed references be expressly considered during prosecution of the application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patents issuing therefrom.

## CONTENT OF DISCLOSURE

This Information Disclosure Statement includes (1) two pages of PTO-1449 forms, and (2) a legible copy of each foreign and non-patent reference, if any, listed on the form(s). However, because this application was filed on or after July 1, 2003, no copies of U.S. patents or published U.S. patent applications are included.

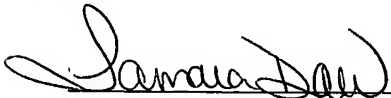
## TIMING OF DISCLOSURE / FEE INFORMATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, either (1) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (2) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions or comments regarding this Information Disclosure Statement.

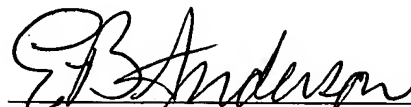
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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Respectfully submitted,

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|  |                                 |                                  |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br><br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>CITATION IN AN APPLICATION<br><br> | DOCKET NUMBER<br>WTE 303        | APPLICATION NUMBER<br>10/731,174 |
|  | APPLICANT<br>Allen F. Podell    |                                  |
|  | FILING DATE<br>December 8, 2003 | GROUP ART UNIT<br>2833           |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE       | NAME              | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | FIL. DATE<br>IF APPROP. |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|
|                     | 6,806,789          | 10/19/2004 | Bawell et al.     |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,806,558          | 10/19/2004 | Apel              |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,771,141          | 8/3/2004   | Iida              |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,765,455          | 7/20/2004  | De Lillo et al.   |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,756,860          | 6/29/2004  | Shin              |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,747,525          | 6/8/2004   | Iida et al.       |       |              |                         |
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|                     | 6,483,397          | 11/19/2002 | Catoiu            |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,407,647          | 6/18/2002  | Apel et al.       |       |              |                         |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS


| DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|--------------------|------|---------|-------|--------------|-----------------------|
|                    |      |         |       |              |                       |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

|  |                                 |                                  |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br><br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>CITATION IN PRIORITY APPLICATION<br><br> | DOCKET NUMBER<br>WTE 303        | APPLICATION NUMBER<br>10/731,174 |
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|---------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|
|                     | 6,346,863          | 2/12/2002  | Sasaki et al.     |       |              |                         |
|                     | 6,342,681          | 1/29/2002  | Goldberger et al. |       |              |                         |
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|                     | 5,634,208          | 5/27/1997  | Nishikawa et al.  |       |              |                         |
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|                     | 3,904,991          | 9/9/1975   | Ishii et al.      |       |              |                         |
|                     | 3,345,585          | 11/25/1964 | Hildebrand        |       |              |                         |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |  |
|--------------------|------|---------|-------|--------------|-----------------------|--|
|                    |      |         |       |              |                       |  |
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## OTHER DOCUMENTS

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |  |